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053

-LIBYA: AL-QADHDHAFI OFFERS ARABS 'TRUE LIBERTIES'

Libya
BF 2Qadhafi, Muammar (speeches)
Muhayshi, Umar

Thu May 05 08:47:50 1988

TAKE 1 OF 3--AL-QADHDHAFI INTERVIEW

PM0505085388 LONDON AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT IN ARABIC 2 MAY 88 P4

(REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH LIBYAN LEADER COLONEL MU'AMMAR AL-QADHDHAFI BY TALHAH JIBRIL AT AL-'AZIZIYAH BARRACKS IN TRIPOLI ON 30 APRIL)

(TEXT) COLONEL MU'AMMAR AL-QADHDHAFI HAS APPEALED TO ALL ARABS AND LIBYANS LIVING ABROAD TO RETURN TO LIBYA, NOTING THAT THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS ON THEIR EXERCISE OF THEIR FREEDOM ON LIBYAN TERRITORY. THE APPEAL WAS MADE DURING COL AL-QADHDHAFI'S INTERVIEW WITH A GROUP OF ARAB JOURNALISTS AT THE AL-'AZIZIYAH BARRACKS IN TRIPOLI IN WHICH AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT PARTICIPATED. HE SAID THAT ARABS LIVING OUTSIDE THE ARAB HOMELAND BECAUSE OF PERSECUTION AND EXPLOITATION CAN RETURN TO LIBYA.

HE URGED ARAB SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS WORKING ABROAD TO PLACE THEIR CAPABILITIES AT THE SERVICE OF THEIR NATION. IT IS IMPROPER, HE SAID, FOR ANY ARAB TO SERVE THE UNITED STATES OR BRITAIN OR TO JOIN THE SPITEFUL CRUSADE CAMP WHICH IS BENT ON DESTROYING THE ARAB NATION. HE ADDED THAT THE ARAB EXPERTS WORKING IN THE FIELDS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN THE WEST ARE THE ONES WHO IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ISRAEL TO HAVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WHICH MEANS THAT ARAB EFFORTS ARE BEING EXPLOITED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE ISRAELIS. HE ADDED THAT THESE PEOPLE SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR NATION AND RETURN TO ARAB LAND.

HE STRONGLY CRITICIZED THOSE ARABS WORKING FOR THE BBC AND THE VOA. HOW, HE SAID, COULD AN ARAB BROADCAST OVER LONDON RADIO AND TALK ABOUT ISRAEL WHEN THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS ISRAEL, ONLY PALESTINE?

HE WENT ON TO WONDER: WHY SHOULD AN ARAB BE FORCED TO BROADCAST IMPERIALIST ABUSE AND PROPAGANDA IN ARABIC? IN RETURN FOR WHAT IS HE DOING THIS? IF HE IS DOING IT IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO EAT AND DRINK, THEN HE CAN COME TO LIBYA AND WE WILL PROVIDE HIS FOOD AND DRINK. WE SHOULD LET THE BRITISH BROADCAST WHAT THEY WISH TO BROADCAST IN THEIR OWN BROKEN ARABIC. THEY SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FIND AN ARAB TO WORK FOR THEM, BECAUSE THERE CAN BE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR AN ARAB WHO CURSES HIS OWN PEOPLE AND NATION. WHEN THE BRITISH WANT TO CALL US NAMES THEY GIVE THE JOB TO AN ARAB WHO USES HIS LANGUAGE AND ELOQUENCE TO PROMOTE PROPAGANDA AND HURL ABUSE AT THIS NATION.

HE SAID THAT VOA, WHICH EMPLOYS ARAB BROADCASTERS, DESCRIBES THE ARAB NATION AS A BACKWARD BARBARIC NATION NOT INTERESTED IN PEACE AND SAYS THAT ISRAEL WANTS PEACE. IF SUCH A PERSON IS DOING THAT FOR A SALARY THEN LET HIM COME HERE AND WE WILL GIVE HIM SUCH A

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SALARY AND IF HE WANTS FOOD AND DRINK THEN HE CAN GET THAT ON THIS FREE LAND.

HE ALSO SAID: YUNIS BAHRI, WHO USED TO BROADCAST FROM THE VOICE OF GERMANY DURING WORLD WAR II, DID SO IN ORDER TO WIN THE ARAB NATION OVER TO HITLER'S SIDE AND HE AT LEAST USED TO SAY THAT THE ARABS SHOULD PROTECT THEIR TERRITORY FROM THE ALLIES. VOA, RADIO MONTE CARLO, AND THE BBC, HOWEVER, CURSE THE ARAB NATION; SO WHY

SHOULD AN ARAB TRANSLATE WHAT THE AMERICANS AND BRITISH SAY AND THEN BROADCAST IT TO HIS NATION?

DURING HIS INTERVIEW, ATTENDED BY AN AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT REPRESENTATIVE, COLONOL AL-QADHDHAFI REVIEWED THE CONDITIONS WHICH PREVAILED IN LIBYA BEFORE THE RECENT DECISIONS. HE SAID THAT THOSE WHO HAD COOPERATED WITH FOREIGN CIRCLES IN THE WEST HAD WRONGED THEMSELVES AND THE FAULT LAY WITH THEM AND THAT THOSE WHO WERE LIQUIDATED WERE ENEMIES AND ALLIES OF MOSSAD AND U.S. INTELLIGENCE AND HAD BEEN TRAINED BY THOSE SERVICES TO FIGHT THE LIBYAN PEOPLE. THAT, HE SAID, EXPLAINS THE LIQUIDATIONS WHICH OCCURRED IN EUROPE'S STREETS. THAT PAGE, HE STRESSED, HAS BEEN TURNED. HE ADDED: ON THIS OCCASION I APPEAL TO ALL ARABS ABROAD WHO FLED FROM REPRESSION, PURSUIT, PRISON, AND LACK OF FREEDOM AND RIGHTS, INCLUDING RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, TO RETURN TO LIBYA TO EXERCISE ALL THE THINGS WHICH THEY WERE DEPRIVED OF AND ON ACCOUNT OF WHICH THEY WERE EXPELLED.

(MORE)

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///THEY WERE EXPELLED.

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(TEXT) HE ALSO SAID: SOME LIBYANS HAVE MADE INQUIRIES TO ARAB NEWSPAPERS ABOUT THE TRUTH. I WANT TO POINT OUT THAT ANY LIBYAN WISHING TO LIVE ABROAD IS FREE TO DO SO AND HE WOULD NOT BE PRESSURED TO COME TO LIBYA. THERE ARE SOME LIBYANS WHO DO NOT SUPPORT THE REVOLUTION AND ARE IN FAVOR OF A CAPITALIST REGIME BUT HAVE NOT BEEN RECRUITED BY THE ENEMY. IF THEY WISH TO REMAIN ABROAD, THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO. THEY ARE ALSO FREE TO RETURN HOME IF THEY SO WISH.

HE ADDED THAT ANY LIBYAN WHO FEELS HE HAS BEEN WRONGED OR THAT HIS HOME OR FARM HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM HIM CAN TAKE HIS CASE TO THE PEOPLE'S COURT FORMED BY THE LIBYAN PEOPLE THROUGH THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES. IF IT CAN BE PROVED THAT HE ACQUIRED THESE PROPERTIES WITH HIS OWN HARD WORK THEN THEY WOULD BE RETURNED TO HIM. SO, ANYONE WISHING TO RETURN TO LIBYA, LIVE HERE, OR GO OUT AGAIN IS FREE TO DO SO AND WOULD NOT HAVE TO SEEK ANYONE'S PERMISSION. IF HE WANTED TO LEAVE ACROSS THE BORDERS, HE WOULD FIND NO LIBYAN AUTHORITY ON THE BORDER, AL-QADHDHAFI SAID, AND LIBYANS LIVING ABROAD CAN ASCERTAIN THIS FACT. ANYONE FROM ANY GROUP CAN RETURN TO LIBYA AND SEE FOR HIMSELF AND THEN CONVEY THE TRUTH TO THE OTHERS ABROAD, HE SAID.

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDED THAT THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT ON THESE DECISIONS AND IF SOMEONE WISHES TO REMAIN ABROAD, SO BE IT, AND WHENEVER HE WISHES TO RETURN HE WILL BE FREE TO DO SO. SARCASTICALLY, HE SAID THAT IF THE ARABS WANT PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN EUROPE, SO BE IT; LET THE ARABS COLONIZE EUROPE. HE ADDED THAT THE RECENT DECISIONS WILL ASSUME A CONSTITUTIONAL CHARACTER ONCE APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, SO THAT EVERYONE WILL REST ASSURED THAT THIS IS A PERMANENT CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE THAT CANNOT BE ABROGATED.

ASKED IF ANY OF THOSE LIVING ABROAD HAVE RESPONDED TO THESE DECISIONS, AL-QADHDHAFI SAID: LARGE GROUPS HAVE RETURNED.

REGARDING THOSE WHO WERE UNJUSTLY JAILED, AL-QADHDHAFI SAID THEY CAN TAKE THEIR CASES TO THE COURTS AND THEY WOULD BE REHABILITATED IF THEY HAD INDEED BEEN WRONGED. THE PUBLIC, HE SAID, HAS BEEN OVERJOYED AT THE RECENT DECISIONS BECAUSE EVEN THOSE WHO HAD PLOTTED AND DESERVED TO DIE WERE RELEASED. PEOPLE DANCED IN THE STREETS WHEN FREEDOM WAS CONFIRMED.

ASKED ABOUT GUARANTEES THAT THIS FREEDOM WOULD CONTINUE, HE SAID: THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES WILL FORMULATE THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONCEPT OF THAT AND WILL LAY DOWN THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH FREEDOM WOULD BE LOST AND WHO WOULD DESERVE PRISON OR EXECUTION.

HE HASTENED TO ADD: I PERSONALLY AM AGAINST THE DEATH SENTENCE

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AND AGAINST HARD LABOR. HE SAID THAT THE PROCESS OF LEGISLATING THE RECENT DECISIONS WILL BEGIN TOMORROW, TUESDAY.

ON THE ISSUE OF OPPOSITION, COLONEL AL-QADHDHAFI SAID THAT THERE IS NO OPPOSITION IN LIBYA.

ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THE FORMATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES, HE SAID THAT ANY LIBYAN CITIZEN CAN PUBLISH A NEWSPAPER PROVIDED IT IS NOT FINANCED FROM ABROAD, AND IF A CITIZEN CANNOT PUBLISH A

NEWSPAPER HE CAN EXPRESS HIS VIEWS IN A SIGNED LEAFLET IN WHICH HE IS ENTITLED TO WRITE ANYTHING, EVEN IF IT INCLUDES ABUSE OF AL-QADHDHAFI, OR HE CAN WRITE ON WALLS IF HE HAS NO PAPER, AND ONCE THE PEOPLE HAVE READ WHAT HE HAS WRITTEN THE WALL WRITING WILL THEN BE ERASED. AS FOR PARTIES, A PARTY IS FORMED FOR THE PROMOTION OF A CERTAIN PROGRAM. ANYONE CAN JOIN THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES AND SUBMIT HIS PROGRAM THERE. IF THE PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED, SUCH A PROGRAM WOULD THEN BE IMPLEMENTED, BUT SECRET WORK IS NOT ALLOWED. WHAT IS IMPORTANT, HE SAID, IS THAT VIEWS ARE EXPRESSED PUBLICLY.

AL-QADHDHAFI WAS ASKED IF COMMITMENT TO THE GREEN BOOK IDEAS WAS NECESSARY. HE REPLIED THAT ANYONE WHO TALKS THAT WAY DOES NOT KNOW THE GREEN BOOK.

HE ASSERTED THAT AFTER THE RECENT DECISION LIBYA HAS NOW BECOME THE LAND OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND TRUE LIBERTIES. HE CALLED FOR THE HEADQUARTERS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO LIBYA. THESE ORGANIZATIONS, HE AID, ARE NOW LOCATED IN THE WEST, WHERE THERE IS NO REAL FREEDOM BECAUSE WESTERN CIVILIZATION IS BASED ON EXPLOITATION. HE ADDED THAT THE HOME SECRETARY IN BRITAIN, THE HEADQUARTERS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, HAS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BIGGEST BRITISH PRISON, BIG ENOUGH TO ABSORB THOUSANDS OF UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE WHO CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO BRITAIN'S SECURITY; SO HOW CAN THIS TERRIBLY REPRESSIVE STATE BE THE HEADQUARTERS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL? HE CONTINUED: HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WHAT DISTINGUISHES MAN FROM THE ANIMALS. ONE'S EFFORT IS WHAT MATTERS. AN ORDINARY CITIZEN IN THE WEST CANNOT DETERMINE HIS OWN FATE, AND I CHALLENGE THEM TO GIVE CITIZENS FREEDOM OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND CARRY OUT A REFERENDUM TO FIND OUT IF THE PEOPLE REALLY WANT TO FIGHT NICARAGUA, PANAMA, LIBYA, OR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. THE ANSWER WOULD BE A CATEGORICAL NO. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DO NOT WISH TO FIGHT US, BUT THE RULING EXPLOITING CIRCLES LINKED TO ZIONISM DO AND THEY VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS. THE U.S. PRESIDENT, FOR EXAMPLE, IS DEFINITELY A DICTATOR WHEN HE PREVENTS HIS NATIONALS FROM VISITING LIBYA OR WORKING HERE AND WHEN HE BANS U.S. COMPANIES FROM OPERATING IN LIBYA. THE SAME THING APPLIES TO BRITAIN. DOES THAT NOT CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS? ANOTHER EXAMPLE: THE POPULATION OF FRANCE IS 50 MILLION BUT ONLY 10 MILLION PARTICIPATED IN THE ELECTIONS, 5 VOTING FOR MITTERRAND AND 5 VOTING AGAINST HIM. SO, DID THE FRENCH PEOPLE REALLY EXERCISE FREE SELF-DETERMINATION? ELECTIONS IN WESTERN STATES ARE FINANCED BY ZIONISM AND LEADERS THERE ARE NOT ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE.

(MORE)

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-TAKE 3 OF 3 -- 053 (AL-QADHDHAFI INTERVIEW)

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///BY THE PEOPLE.

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(TEXT) COLONEL AL-QADHDHAFI ANNOUNCED THAT ALL ARAB PAPERS, MAGAZINES, PUBLICATIONS, AND BOOKS ARE ALLOWED IN LIBYAN MARKETS AND THAT IF A DECISION WERE TO BE MADE LINKING THE (LIBYAN -- FBIS) BROADCASTING STATION TO ANY OTHER ARAB BROADCASTING STATION, WE WOULD HAVE NO RESERVATIONS ABOUT THAT. WE FEAR NO THREAT FROM THE ARAB WORLD, AND I TELL THEM (THE ARABS -- FBIS) THAT ANYONE WHO HAS A PAPER OR PUBLICATION TO SELL IN LIBYAN MARKETS CAN DO SO WHETHER HE DELIVERS IT BY AIR OR ON A CAMEL.

ANSWERING A QUESTION ABOUT FOREIGN REACTION TO THE RECENT RELEASE OF FOREIGN DETAINEES, AL-QADHDHAFI SAID: THESE PEOPLE HAVE NO ETHICS. THEY GOT THEIR PRISONERS BACK AND THAT WAS THAT. THE WAY WE SEE IT, IF YOU DO SOMEONE A FAVOR HE RETURNS THAT FAVOR, BUT NOT SO IN THE WEST. IF WESTERN CIVILIZATION IS THE CIVILIZATION OF ELECTRONS AND SATELLITES, THEN IT IS NOT A REAL CIVILIZATION. IF WE OBSERVE SPIDERS OR ANTS, WE SEE THAT THEY DO VERY STRANGE THINGS. A SPIDER'S NEST, FOR EXAMPLE, LOOKS AS IF IT WAS BUILT WITH AN ELECTRONIC BRAIN. ANTS BURY THEIR DEAD AND SAVE THEIR ENERGY FROM SEASON TO SEASON, OPERATING LIKE MACHINES, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT SPIDERS AND ANTS ARE CIVILIZED. THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE MANUFACTURE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY ARE CIVILIZED.

ASKED IF SOME PEOPLE ARE STILL IN PRISON, HE SAID THAT THERE ARE A FEW DOZEN WHO HAD EXPLOITED RELIGION IN POLITICS OR CONSPIRED WITH FOREIGNERS. HE ADDED: THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT ALLOW ME TO SET THEM FREE, BECAUSE IF I DID THE PUBLIC WOULD FIGHT THEM IN THE STREETS. SO TO SAVE THEIR LIVES, WE HAVE KEPT THEM IN PRISON, BUT WE HAVE RELEASED ALL FOREIGNERS.

REGARDING LIBYANS RESIDING ABROAD BUT HAVING NO LIBYAN PASSPORTS AND WISHING TO RETURN HOME, HE SAID THEY CAN CONTACT THE LIBYAN EMBASSIES ABROAD AND OBTAIN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OR PASSPORTS TO TRAVEL ON, AND THEY WOULD BE GIVEN EVERY FACILITY.

HE ADDED THAT THOSE IMPRISONED IN THE PAST WERE UNFAIR TO THEMSELVES BECAUSE IT WAS A SELF-INFLICTED IMPRISONMENT FOR PLOTTING. THEY WRONGED THEIR OWN FAMILIES AND BROUGHT THEM INTO DISREPUTE, AND THEY WERE UNFAIR TO US BECAUSE THEY TURNED US INTO JAILERS. AL-QADHDHAFI NOTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A WORLDWIDE RESPONSE TO THE RECENT DECISIONS.

ASKED IF LIBYANS LIVING ABROAD WHO HAD ENGAGED IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY AGAINST THEIR COUNTRY WOULD BE PERMITTED TO RETURN HOME, HE SAID THAT THEY ARE FREE TO COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE AND THEY CAN EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS IN THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES.

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ASKED IF THIS DECISION ALSO COVERS SUCH PEOPLE AS FORMER REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL MEMBER 'UMAR AL-MUHAYSHI, HE REPLIED: EVEN 'UMAR AL-MUHAYSHI. SO, IF YOU FIND HIM, INVITE HIM TO RETURN AND NOTIFY HIM OF THIS AND REPORT IT IN YOUR PAPERS. HE WOULD NOT BE QUESTIONED ABOUT ANYTHING; I GUARANTEE THAT. (AT THIS POINT ONE OF THE PEOPLE PRESENT POINTED OUT THAT AL-MUHAYSHI WAS ALREADY IN TRIPOLI)

AL-QADHDHAFI SAID THAT HE HAD NO STATISTICS SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY RETURNED, AND THAT THIS MEANT NOTHING TO HIM. WHAT IS IMPORTANT, HE SAID, IS THAT LIBYA HAS DEMOLISHED PRISONS AND BORDERS AND ANY ARAB CAN ENTER IT WITHOUT A PASSPORT OR VISA, FOR LIBYA IS THE LAND OF THE ARABS AND SHOULD HAVE NO GATE BARRIERS AND SHOULD BE A MAGNET FOR ALL THE ARABS.

AT THE END OF THE INTERVIEW AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT'S REPRESENTATIVE ASKED COLONEL AL-QADHDHAFI IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE FIELD INQUIRIES AND MEET WITH THE RELEASED PRISONERS AND RETURNEES AND TO ASK THE AVERAGE PEOPLE THEIR OPINION OF THE RECENT DECISIONS. HE REPLIED: YOU ARE FREE TO DO WHATEVER YOU LIKE, AND IF YOU SEE SOME FAULT OR SOMETHING WRONG DURING YOUR INQUIRY, THEN YOU MUST WRITE ABOUT IT SO THAT WE MAY REMEDY IT.

(ENDALL)

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